

## SULLIVAN COUNTY

# Van donation aids work release program

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The Claremont Main Street Association has offered to donate a van to the Sullivan County Department of Corrections to transport inmates who participate in community improvement projects around the area.

The idea for the donation had been previously discussed with Ross Cunningham, the superintendent of the Sullivan County Department of Corrections, and Bob Weaver, the president of the Claremont Main Street Association (CMSA). It was formerly discussed at the Sullivan County Commissioners meeting on April 29.

Weaver said the CMSA was looking to donate the van so that inmates could be taken to Claremont to participate in cleaning up the downtown area. The van would not be limited

to use in Claremont, though, the Department of Corrections would use it to bring inmates to job sites around the county, even possibly to Newport, Sunapee, Lempster, Goshen, Grantham, Croydon and Springfield.

Currently the department has a van they use to bring inmates to court proceedings, medical appointments and for transfers to other jails around the state. The current van could not be committed to community services because of the activities its used for. The van donated by CMSA would be used solely for the community services program of the department.

The donation of the van is not a done deal, though. Cunningham will have to present his plan at a CMSA meeting May 7 where the association members will vote on if they will approve the donation. After that, the commissioners have to decide if they will accept it.